**Grants to NGOs for artificial Limbs and appliances**

1871. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government extend grants under the 'Assistance to Disabled persons Scheme, 1981' (ADIP) to certain identified NGOs and others engaged in manufacture of artifical limbs and appliances, for distribution of artificial limbs and appliances free of cost to the poor;

(b) if so, the details in this regard indicating the identified NGOs and others and the grants released to them under the scheme during the last five years, recipient-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether Government have stopped extending grants under ADIP; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and by when the scheme would be revived?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Yes Sir, Government is providing assistance to eligible implementing agencies for distribution of artificial limbs and appliances free of cost to the poor persons with disabilities under the scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/ Applicances (ADIP).

(b) Details of grant-in-aid released during the last three years is available at website of Ministry *www. socialjustice.nic.in* and beyond that information is available in the Annual Report of the Ministry.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Financial assistance for coaching to SC/ST persons**

1872. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of SOCIALJUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government provide financial assistance to the States for "Coaching and allied assistance for SCs/STs. OBCs and Minorities" to help them prepare for the various competitive examinations;

(b) if so, the details thereof provided during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the criteria for the grant of such assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of grants-in-aid released under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Coaching and Allied Assistance for Weaker Sections including Scheduled Castes, Other Backward Classes and Minorities are as under:

| Sl. No | Name of States | 2001-02 | 2003-04 | 2003-04 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | Nil | 111.80 | 34.05 |
| 2. | Bihar | Nil | 6.00 | Nil |
| 3. | Gujarat | Nil | 5.45 | Nil |
| 4. | Haryana | 2.19 | 24.68 | Nil |
| 5. | Karnataka | Nil | Nil | 14.33 |
| 6. | Kerala | 20.86 | 22.01 | 20.54 |
| 7. | Madhya Pradesh | Nil | 19.99 | 25.63 |
| 8. | Orissa | 2.50 | Nil | Nil |
| 9. | Punjab | Nil | 7.76 | Nil |
| 10. | Tamil Nadu' | 11.15 | Nil | Nil |
| 11. | Uttar Pradesh | 2.61 | Nil | Nil |
| 12. | Uttaranchal | Nil | Nil | 5.45 |
| 13. | West Bengal | 2.68 | Nil | Nil |
| 14. | Delhi | 1.90 | 10.00 | Nil |

The details of grants-in aid released under the Centrally Sponoserd Scheme of Coaching and Allied Assistance for Scheduled Tribes are as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl. No. | Name of States | 2001-02 | 2002-03 | 2003-04 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | Nil | 8.04 | Nil |
| 2. | A&N Island | 2.79 | Nil | Nil |
| 3. | Assam | Nil | 1.69 | Nil |
| 4. | Karnataka | 2.15 | 1.76 | Nil |
| 5. | Orissa | 2.49 | 4.82 | Nil |
| 6. | Tamil Nadu | Nil | 0.2 | Nil |

(c) Assistance is provided to State Government or University/Colleges and other NGOs and private sector Institutes of repute who should be either a Trust, Company, Partnership firm, or registered Society. These NGOs and private sector Institutes should be running coaching courses and should have achieved distinction during the preceding three years in terms of success rate of candidates coached by such institutions.

**National Commission for welfare of backward section**

1873. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government have decided to set up a National Commission to recommend steps for the welfare of socially and economically backward section amongst religious and linguistic minorities including reservation in education and Government employment;

(b) if so, what is the criteria to identify the socially and economically backward sections amongst the religious and linguistic minorities; and

(c) by when the commission is expected to be set up and start functioning?